



Turbosawmill M12-35A Operating Cost and Production Schedule

Estimated average production model for softwood using the insert-style blade

Crew	One skilled primary operator plus one recommended tail-out assistant. Labour costs are excluded.
Log size	Premium 6 m / approximately 20 ft long; 0.8 m / 800 mm / approximately 2.62 ft (31.5 in) diameter.
Average production	500 board feet/hour / 1.18 m ³ /hour.
Machine capability	Up to approximately 1,000 board feet/hour / 2.36 m ³ /hour under favourable conditions.

Operating Cost Table

Cost item	Basis / service interval	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Yearly	Cost per m ³	Cost per 1,000 bf
Fuel	3 L/m ³ ; NZ\$3.00/L; approx. US\$6.55/US gal	US\$49.02	US\$245.10	US\$1,078.46	US\$12,745.38	US\$5.19	US\$12.26
Insert teeth	5 per blade; 20 cost US\$195; replace every 20m ³	US\$23.01	US\$115.04	US\$506.16	US\$5,981.93	US\$2.44	US\$5.75
Automated belt kit	Replace every 6 months	US\$0.72	US\$3.60	US\$15.83	US\$187.12	US\$0.08	US\$0.18
Drive belt kit	Replace every 6 months	US\$0.87	US\$4.36	US\$19.17	US\$226.52	US\$0.09	US\$0.22
Diamond sharpening stone	Replace every 6 months	US\$1.29	US\$6.44	US\$28.33	US\$334.85	US\$0.14	US\$0.32
Engine replacement	2,000-hour life; US\$2,000 replacement	US\$8.00	US\$40.00	US\$176.00	US\$2,080.00	US\$0.85	US\$2.00
Gearbox replacement	2,000-hour life; US\$650 replacement	US\$2.60	US\$13.00	US\$57.20	US\$676.00	US\$0.28	US\$0.65
Drive rope	Replace every 3 months	US\$0.83	US\$4.17	US\$18.33	US\$216.67	US\$0.09	US\$0.21
Feed gas strut	Replace every 2 years	US\$0.34	US\$1.68	US\$7.40	US\$87.50	US\$0.04	US\$0.08
Pivot gas strut	Replace every 2 years	US\$0.50	US\$2.50	US\$11.00	US\$130.00	US\$0.05	US\$0.12
Bronze rollers (set of 6)	Replace every 200 operating hours	US\$14.80	US\$74.00	US\$325.60	US\$3,848.00	US\$1.57	US\$3.70
Air filter	Replace annually	US\$0.19	US\$0.96	US\$4.23	US\$50.00	US\$0.02	US\$0.05
Fuel filter	Replace annually	US\$0.10	US\$0.48	US\$2.12	US\$25.00	US\$0.01	US\$0.02
Oil filter	Replace annually	US\$0.10	US\$0.48	US\$2.12	US\$25.00	US\$0.01	US\$0.02
Blade tensioning	Every 6 months	US\$0.30	US\$1.52	US\$6.67	US\$78.79	US\$0.03	US\$0.08
General consumables	Screws, springs and feed cable; US\$10/week	US\$2.00	US\$10.00	US\$44.00	US\$520.00	US\$0.21	US\$0.50
Engine oil	US\$30 every 6 months	US\$0.23	US\$1.14	US\$5.00	US\$59.09	US\$0.02	US\$0.06
Blade replacement	US\$750 every 3 years	US\$0.96	US\$4.81	US\$21.15	US\$250.00	US\$0.10	US\$0.24
TOTAL ESTIMATED MACHINE RUNNING COST (labour and loader excluded)		US\$105	US\$529	US\$2,328	US\$27,521	US\$11	US\$26

Production Output

Period	Operating basis	Board feet	Cubic metres	Approx. fuel use
Hourly	1 hour	500 bf	1.18 m ³	3.5 L
Daily	8 hours	4,000 bf	9.44 m ³	28.3 L
Weekly	5 days / 40 hours	20,000 bf	47.19 m ³	141.6 L
Monthly	22 days / 176 hours	88,000 bf	207.66 m ³	623.0 L
Yearly	260 days / 2,080 hours	1,040,000 bf	2,454.13 m ³	7,362.4 L

Fuel conversion assumption: NZ\$3.00 per litre equals NZ\$11.36 per U.S. gallon, or approximately US\$6.55 per U.S. gallon at NZD 1 = USD 0.57705 (26 July 2026).

Important: This is a practical average-production model. Actual production and consumable use will vary with log quality, timber dimensions, species, handling efficiency, operator experience and site conditions.

Planning assumptions

Period	Production (bf)	Log Cost	Sales Value	Machine Costs	Estimated Gross Margin
Daily	4,000	\$2,000	\$8,000	\$105.85	\$5,894.15
Weekly	20,000	\$10,000	\$40,000	\$529.27	\$29,470.73
Monthly	88,000	\$44,000	\$176,000	\$2,328.77	\$129,671.23
Yearly	1,040,000	\$520,000	\$2,080,000	\$27,521.85	\$1,532,478.15

Log cost: US\$500 per 1,000 board feet (yellow pine)

Important:

- Finished timber selling price: US\$2.00 per board foot (air dried).
- Natural air drying assumed (no kiln costs).
- Loader/forklift costs excluded.
- Off-bearer labour excluded.
- Finance, land, freight, taxes and overheads excluded.
- Onsite grading costs (not included above):
 - Site visit grading agent: PLIB, NELMA, SPIB, WCLIB. **US\$920.**
 - Per BF cost: **US\$0.05c-0.10c per 20000bf assessment.**

Value-Added Opportunity: The figures above are based on selling rough-sawn timber air-dried. By further processing two-inch softwood through drying and planing, higher-grade products can often achieve selling prices of approximately **US\$5–\$7 per board foot**, demonstrating the significant value that can be added through a small number of additional processing steps.

Disclaimer: The figures in this guide are estimates only and are provided for planning purposes. Actual production and profitability will vary depending on operator skill, log quality, site layout, material handling efficiency, equipment maintenance, and other operating conditions. These figures are not a promise or guarantee of performance, but an indication of what may be achievable under efficient operating conditions.